

**2015-2016 PROPOSED BUDGET  
RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

**DEPARTMENT: Fire**

**REQUEST NO.: 83**

**REQUESTED BY: Garza**

**DATE REQUESTED: 08/05/15**

**DATE POSTED: 08/11/15**

**REQUEST:** Please provide a status update regarding which fire stations have comparable restroom and locker room facilities for men and women, and an expected timeline for when equal facilities will be added to any remaining fire stations that have yet to be updated. Please provide a description of any processes in place to ensure quality control including a history of inspections and reports regarding conditions of existing equal facilities.

**RESPONSE:**

At present, 33 of 45 Austin Fire Department (AFD) stations have been provided with “adequate, private shower, locker, and toilet facilities for all firefighters” – the quoted standard found in the City Project Description. The 33 includes stations to which separate women’s facilities have been added, as well as newer stations which were built incorporating unisex, individual-user facilities.

The current phase of the locker room project (Phase 5) will feature women’s locker room/ bathroom additions to Stations 5, 7, 22, 24, 26 and 27. The design phase is complete for these six stations, and construction should be completed in late 2016 or early 2017. In addition to constructing women’s facilities, the Department is also taking advantage of the opportunity to address general renovation needs at each of stations. For example, Station 7 recently underwent a renovation to replace its roof, windows, front entrance, truck bay ceiling, HVAC system, and sewer line connections. The project also renovated the kitchen/dining room, bathroom, and dormitory and addressed needs related to truck bay and interior lockers and larger truck accommodations.

Analysis for the remaining stations (Phase 6 - Stations 2, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 16) is underway. These stations are the most difficult of all AFD fire stations to address the need of women’s facilities due to facility age, footprint, etc. AFD recognizes the importance of addressing the locker room issue and is working deliberately to develop recommendations for the City Manager by the end of 2015. AFD has no quality control processes specifically dealing with existing locker/bathroom facilities.